

## PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

**Name of the Partnership/Initiative: Asia-Pacific Initiative: Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) Japan Program**

**Expected date of initiation: July 2002**

**Expected date of completion: March 2006**

### **Partners Involved:**

Governments:

Intergovernmental organizations:

Major groups:

LEAD International Inc. and LEAD regional programs

IGES (Institute for Global Environmental Strategies)

United Nations University

Keio University Shonan Fujisawa Campus (SFC) Research Institute,  
(Uno Laboratory, Kaji Laboratory, Fukui Laboratory)

Asian Institute of Technology

Other:

Subtropical Research Institute (Okinawa)

Keidanren Nature Conservancy Fund

Sasakawa Peace Foundation

### *Leading Partner:*

Name of the contact person/focal point: Kimio Uno, Program Director, LEAD Japan Program, and Professor, Graduate School of Media and Governance, Keio University

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### **Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative**

Please provide a brief description:

LEAD Japan, in association with a consortium of partner institutions, is proposing to instigate a range of activities in the Asia-Pacific Region (and in the South-East Asia, in particular) in order to promote collaborative and policy-oriented research, education and capacity development.

Three core activities are proposed as follows:

- A joint Masters Degree Programme will be developed through a coalition of universities in Asia and Japan, including a strong online education dimension.
- Joint research projects with a strong policy analysis will be supported in collaboration with participating universities, research institutions, NGOs, and international organizations based in the region.
- Next generation broadcasting will be initiated including voice/video contents provided by (1) and, in particular, (2) above, from a designated website for this Initiative.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration: The focus of these collaborative efforts will encompass issues related to environmental sustainability and multi-level governance (i.e., fostering stronger links between regional, national and local manifestations of governance).

The LEAD International Programme is headquartered in London, and its Asia Pacific branches can be found in Japan, China, Indonesia, India, and Pakistan. The proposed Asia Pacific Initiative corresponds closely with the original aim to expand LEAD Japan's activities so as to enhance joint academic programmes in universities across the region as well as to provide mid-career training to Asian professionals interested in environment and development.

LEAD Japan, after five years of operation, has successfully grown into an open platform that encourages participation from institutions located in Japan engaged in research and policy formulation in the environment and development spheres. LEAD Japan is jointly supported by, among others, laboratories at Keio University (host for the programme), the United Nations University (UNU) and its Institute of Advanced Studies, other UN organizations, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Environment, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Research Institute for Subtropics (RIS) in Okinawa. Thus, LEAD Japan is well placed to function as an open platform for universities, research institutions, NGOs, and foreign aid organizations in formulating programmes to support intellectual exchange in the Asia Pacific region.

**Expected results:**

Please provide a brief description: Building upon the training schemes that already in place (this will eventually a part of the second layer described below), and as LEAD Japan continues to evolve, three main activities are envisaged for the region:

- (1) Promotion of curriculum development, distance learning module development, and joint academic programmes and joint degrees between institutions in the region.
- (2) Promotion of joint research activities, formulation of policy relevant research outputs.
- (3) Promotion of public awareness on the importance of attaining sustainable development through next generation broadcasting (live and on-demand) linking commentary, interviews, videos, and streaming.

Since the Asia Pacific Initiative will be implemented by diverse institutions in the region, and its issue orientation is achieved through trans-disciplinary collaboration, it is expected to provide an open platform on the issues surrounding environment and development. The tantalizing prospect of reorganizing the contemporary world order for the sake of sustainable development is an exciting challenge for today's younger generations. Asia Pacific is quite diverse and remains silent (or unheard) on many issues related to the reform of the global system. To begin with, the activities in the South-East Asia, while complementing those initiated in Japan and China, will form part of a trilateral process of intellectual exchange between Asia, North America and Europe.

**Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:**

The proposed initiative will encourage extensive cooperation between universities and research institutions in the region with support from diverse funding sources including foundations, international financial organizations and overseas-aid agencies. The focus of these collaborative

efforts will encompass issues related to environmental sustainability and multi-level governance (i.e., fostering stronger links between regional, national and local manifestations of governance).

Tangible targets thus include (1) development of joint programs with focus on sustainability issue, (2) environmental monitoring and policy formulation platform based on GIS and simulation model, and (3) region-wide network of next generation broadcasting (live and on-demand) for information dissemination and promotion of public awareness. Social, cultural, and historical dimension of environmental change will be emphasized. Participants should thus include school children as well as senior citizens.

The initial phase of the Asia Pacific Initiative has started in July 2002, with the formulation of loose consortium of participating members. Minimum level of financial support has been secured through 2005, during which time additional support will be sought. It is expected that a prototype of layers (1)(2)(3) above will be achieved during the initial 4 year period. Expanded coverage will be subject to the proof of workability and effectiveness of the proposed scheme as well as the availability of additional funding.

#### **Coordination and Implementation mechanism**

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

LEAD Japan's steering committee, consisting of representatives of the UNU, IGES, JICA, and RIS, among others, meets regularly for exchange of opinions as well for decision making. This framework will be expanded in order to reflect the new membership and to meet the requirement of the Asia Pacific Initiative.

#### **Arrangements for funding**

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

On the financial side, the LEAD Japan Programme is supported a number of organizations including the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF), Toyota Motors and Toyota Foundation, and the Keidanren Nature Conservancy Fund.

However, in the future it will be crucial for LEAD Japan to obtain further support from foundations and international organizations that are based in Asia Pacific. It is envisaged that the Asia Pacific Initiative would be financially supported by regionally based foundations and foreign aid organizations in line with their common objectives, reflecting their individual founding goals and promoting shared ownership and support for part of the entire scheme.

#### **Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer**

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

The core activities include the following:

- (1) A joint Masters Degree Programme will be developed through a coalition of universities in Asia and Japan, including a strong online education dimension.
- (2) Joint research projects with a strong policy analysis will be supported in collaboration with participating universities, research institutions, NGOs, and international organizations

based in the region.

(3) A series of web-casts will be initiated including voice/video contents provided by (1) and, in particular, (2) above, from a designated website for this Initiative.

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

As for (1) above, it will be a participatory process. UNU, Keio, AIT, and NSU will initially be the cores of activities, which will be expanded to include larger areas in the region. The layer (2) will be achieved through GIS that covers the entire Asia Pacific region. This will be an integral part of the global research network. Also, economy-energy-environment simulation model covering 60 regions/countries of the global community will be able to provide simulation for the year 2010 and beyond. These tools will be made available to the participating institutions when appropriate financial resources are made available. Next generation broadcasting, the layer (3) above, will be based on the latest technological development as well as diversified contents provided by the participating organizations throughout Asia Pacific. Necessary technology and skills will be transferred through participatory process. It is also intended to organize a workshop to facilitate technology transfer in contents development, software utilization, and system configuration.

**Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)**

Please provide a brief description:

LEAD (Leadership for Environment and Development) Japan Program is jointly operated through collaboration of UNU, IGES, JICA, RIS, Keio University, and others. In addition to LEADJapan, LEAD Programs exist in Brazil, Canada, China, CIS, Francophone Africa, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Southern Africa, and USA. LEAD International (UK) coordinates the activities globally. LEAD Japan organized a regional meeting in Okinawa in March 2002 participated by LEAD India and Pakistan. LEAD China plans to organize a regional meeting joined by Indonesia and Japan in 2003.

**Monitoring Arrangements**

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:

(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

Three layers of activities, including joint programs, policy formulation, and next generation broadcasting, each focusing on the environment and development issue, will organize working groups for program development and monitoring.

The Asia Pacific Initiative will maintain a web-site in conjunction with its internet broadcasting (live and on-demand) where current status will be announced and the contents assets will be archived for outside review. Various workshops to be organized in the implementation phase of the initiative will also function as a channel for exchanging views.

**Other relevant information:**

The contents modules available at Keio University, the host institute for the LEAD Japan Program, include the following:

Economy-Energy-Environment Database and Simulation Model COMPASS (Uno Laboratory)

Gaming and simulation of regional development and impacts on environment PANGAEA (Kaji Laboratory)  
Geographic Information System (GIS) (Fukui Geo-Informatics Laboratory)  
Mega City Project (Tsukagoshi Laboratory)  
Subtropics survey fields in Okinawa

Web-site (if available): ???

***Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:***

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<p><b>Partners Involved:</b></p> <p>Governments:</p> <p>Intergovernmental organizations:</p> <p>Major groups:</p> <p>Other:</p> <p><i>Leading Partner:</i>  Name of the contact person/focal point:  Address:  Phone:  Fax:  E-mail:</p>
<p><b>Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative</b>  Please provide a brief description:</p>  <p>Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:</p>  <p><b>Expected results:</b>  Please provide a brief description:</p>
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(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

**Other relevant information:**

Web-site (if available):

***Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:***

*Name:*

*Position:*

*Address:*

*Phone:*

*Fax:*

*E-mail:*